

SOME PHASES OF INDUSTRIAL GROWTH IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

SOME BIG YIELDS

Average in Linn County Larger Than Usual.

RAIN IS A GREAT HELP

Delays Threshing Few Days, but More Than Compensates by Good Done—Threshing Season Much Shorter Than Formerly.

ALBANY, Or., Aug. 11.—(Special.)—Threshing is now in full swing throughout this section, and straw-piles are towering mountain-high where but a few days ago only scattering shocks were to be seen. Nearly all the Fall grain has now been cut, and threshing of Spring grain will commence tomorrow. The rain of last week has not resulted in anything other than benefit to the farmer and agriculturist. A slight delay has been caused in the fields where threshing was in progress, but this is more than compensated for by the good which the precipitation accomplished.

While the Fall crop of grain this year was not so great because of the smaller acreage planted, individual yields in wheat, rye and oats, reported from different parts of Linn and Benton Counties, show that the percentage of grain raised to the acre exceeds by several bushels that of preceding seasons. In the past few years farmers in Linn and Benton Counties have contented themselves with yields of from 15 to 20 bushels of wheat to the acre. This year the average is expected to exceed 25 bushels.

Some Good Yields. Among the best wheat yields in this section so far known is that of A. Henshaw, who owns 25 acres of low land in Benton County, across the Willamette River from Albany. When threshed last week, an average of 30 bushels to the acre was obtained. F. W. Holmes, who owns a farm adjacent to that of Mr. Henshaw, planted 140 acres in wheat last Fall, and his average yield was 30 bushels to the acre. Had not the Willamette River inundated part of his land during the harvest in April, Mr. Holmes says his wheat would have averaged higher than that did. One hundred acres in wheat and oats, planted by F. L. Holmes, another Benton County farmer, living near Albany, will bring 25 and 40 bushels per acre, respectively. Frank Thompson and A. F. Luther, having farms in Benton County, also report good yields in grain products. The latter gentleman has 50 acres in oats, which he says will run 35 bushels to the acre, and 20 acres in rye, that will average 20 bushels.

Season Growing Shorter. The farming season east of Albany in Linn County and the land sown in grain adjacent to Lebanon, also show good yields in grain products this season. M. Bussard, who has just concluded threshing his Fall wheat, secured 25 bushels to the acre. The oats which he says will give the remarkable yield of 40 bushels to the acre. Carl Middlestead, residing near Lebanon, has 50 acres of oats, and his low land, that he reports will equal the expected yield of Mr. Bussard. The average, however, will not be above 50 bushels.

A noticeable fact is that the threshing season in the Willamette Valley is now much shorter than formerly. Ten and 20 years ago six weeks was not considered a long harvest, and now to this time when headers were in vogue two months was a reasonable time. Now, with the introduction of the modern self-binding and the Valley grain-growing sections, three weeks about winds up the harvest season. Another thing contributing to the shortening of the harvest is that farming is becoming more diversified, and the once large farms of half a section and over are now divided into small tracts. In place of grain-growing, dairying and fruit-raising are found to be more profitable occupations for the farmer.

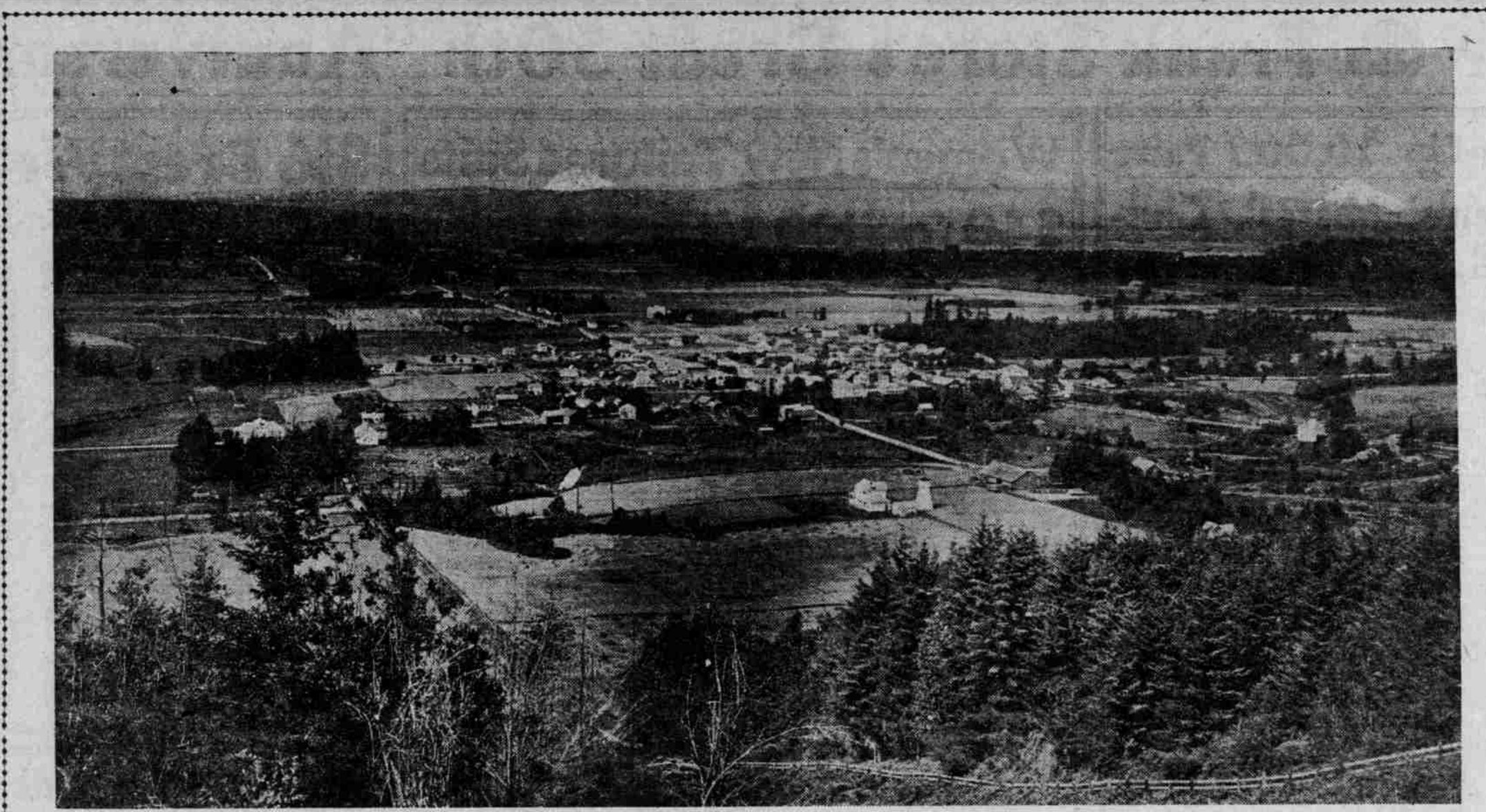
MAKE WAR ON INSECT PEST Experiments in Walla Walla County Are Successful.

PULLMAN, Wash., Aug. 11.—(Special.)—The experiments in the extermination of the codling moth, which have been conducted by R. E. Trumble in the Walla Walla county, have yielded satisfactory results so far as early apples are concerned. On the ranch of C. L. Whitney, County Fruit Inspector, the third spraying has been completed. On one tree a count of the apples was made and it was found that out of 500 apples, only one was wormy. A neighboring orchard which had not been sprayed, however, was found to contain 35 per cent wormy apples. The variety of apple—as the "yellow transparent."

Late apples are in the same good condition as the earlier types in the orchards where constant spraying has been done. The final test of the efficiency of spraying as a means of exterminating the codling moth will be found in the condition of the late varieties when they ripen in the Fall. Trumble also said that the peach "twigs" is becoming prevalent in the Walla Walla district, where the Experiment Station is conducting similar experiments to those carried on at Walla Walla, and that steps looking towards its extermination will have to be taken in a very short time. This is a pest that bores into the twig and kills the peach before it has time to develop. It is very likely that the Department of Entomology at the State College, will take up the study and determine the best method of treating this pest during the coming season.

Fatal Harvest in Gilliam. CONDON, Or., Aug. 11.—(Special.)—Harvesting is now in full blast. The crop is the heaviest ever raised in Gilliam County. The only returns so far are from the harvesters, of which several are at work. One field of 27 acres yielded 233 sacks. Another field made 70 bushels per acre. No yields of less than ten bushels per acre are reported in the county. Wheat and 20 to 25 sacks of barley seem to be the common report. This wheat all grades No. 1, and the sacks will weigh about 35 pounds each. The weather is ideal for harvesting and threshing from stacks will begin this week.

Fatal Accident in Mill. TILLAMOOK, Or., Aug. 11.—(Special.)—E. S. Porter, employed by the Tillamook Lumber Company, at Hobbsville, was caught in the machinery yesterday afternoon and while working from a shaft, suffering painful injuries, from which he died this morning.



POWELL VALLEY AND CITY OF GRESHAM.

Photograph by L. A. Taylor.

The city of Gresham is situated 14 miles east of Portland, on the line of the Oregon Water Power & Railway Company's road to Estacada. Gresham is where the Multnomah County Fair and Carnival will be held in October under direction of the ten Granges of the county. It is the industrial center of Eastern Multnomah County and has a population of about 500. Five rural free delivery routes center there and the business transactions represent many thousands of dollars each year. The surrounding country is devoted principally to dairying and potato farming, with a large acreage in hay and grain.

The grounds chosen for the coming fair are situated between the Baptist Church and Grange Hall, both of which may be seen in the left foreground. The tract comprises about ten acres. Johnson Creek, a portion of which is to be seen in the picture, runs through the grounds. Buildings and stock sheds will be erected by the business men of Gresham and the Grange Hall will be used for evening entertainments and institute work during the fair.

Powell Valley is about four miles in length and two in width. The Columbia River can be seen in the distance with Mount St. Helena and Mount Adams beyond. The photograph was taken from Gresham Butte.

GRAIN CROP FALLS DOWN

CLACKAMAS COUNTY YIELD NOT UP TO LAST YEAR.

Rain Does Some Damage—Fruit Crop Also Small—Labor Problem Proving Very Serious.

OREGON CITY, Or., Aug. 11.—(Special.)—Heavy rains throughout Clackamas County during the past week were of no benefit to the farmers, many of whom had not finished threshing their grain. The weather was ideal up to Wednesday, but the damage was slight on the whole. The yield of wheat is not so generous as last year, and though the kernels are well filled, the average is not more than 25 bushels to the acre, against 30 bushels last year. Oats will run as high as 45 bushels to the acre.

The rain has materially assisted the growth of late sown grain and the gardens. In general the grain crop in Clackamas was not nearly so heavy as expected. The early crops of corn, beans and peas are well along, and the early crops of the egg plant and the Damascus and Bradshaw plums, and the pear and grape crops. The grape vines in the vicinity of Milwaukie are doing well and the pear trees are heavily laden. The peach crop, will be fair, but the prunes and apples will be very short. Peach plums are already out of market, but the early crops of the Damascus and Bradshaw plums are exceedingly scarce, and Red Astrachan and Gravensteins are bringing a wholesale price of \$1.25 per box. The prune crop will be curtailed throughout the county.

Every succeeding year sees more acreage in gardens, and the summer vegetables for the local and Portland markets is increasing annually. Thomas Eaden, residing ten miles up the Clackamas, has over 15 acres in vegetables, and will supply the Portland market with more than 600 sacks of potatoes this year. His potatoes last year sold for \$1.19 per sack. All kinds of fresh vegetables are in great demand and it is freely predicted that a portion of Clackamas County will be Portland's back door for a fresh vegetable supply, as well as for dairy products.

Help Hard to Get. The old problem of hired help on the farm again faces the ranchers this year and is becoming more and more serious. In some localities the farmers were forced to go out and work for their neighbors, receiving assistance in return. Only in this manner were the crops harvested.

The plan of doing nothing to the crop after it is planted, and placing the harvesting of it in the hands of people who make a business of going from place to place with their huge and well equipped machines is growing to be popular because of necessity. The demand for labor several years ago commenced to cripple the farmer and now it is spreading to small manufacturing lines and has reached the country sawmills, where it is reported that laborers are very independent, working when they choose and laying off when not in the humor to work, and if their employer does not like the kind of treatment he is getting he has no recourse, for the men will simply leave and a few miles further off they will find a manufacturer who is glad to have their services.

Made Money in Sawmill. W. A. Shaver, who sold his sawmill house last week, said that he never knew how many of his crew of men would appear for work on Monday mornings. Mr. Shaver's experience in the sawmill business was profitable, however, and withstanding the labor difficulty. He says any man with a little capital can make money if he is shrewd enough to hit the right thing at the right time. Mr. Shaver is a well-known cattle man of the Molalla country and is probably one of the largest producers of beef cattle in Clackamas County. About one year ago he turned his attention to lumbering and logging, just because he thought there was money to be made, and also because he found a good buy. He accumulated 3,000,000 feet of timber and sold it for just double the amount he paid for it, and cleared \$10,000 in a year on his deal.

He sold his mill property last Wednesday to W. C. Noon of the Noon Bay Company of Portland for \$10,000. The unwillingness of laborers to work in the wood camps is the cause of high price of fuel, according to Mr. Shaver. The work in sawmill and other manufacturing lines is not so arduous as it is in the wood camps.

MAY GROW ALFALFA SEED

EXPERT SAYS GROUND IN ORCHARDS SHOULD BE USED.

Be a Mistake.

NORTH YAKIMA, Wash., Aug. 11.—(Special.)—That the clean cultivation of orchards as practiced in this valley is a mistake, and that this country is particularly suited for the production of alfalfa seed, are two opinions expressed today by Professor C. Y. Piper, agronomist of the United States Department of Agriculture, who has been in the valley for some time experimenting and investigating the best use of the land.

Professor Piper says: "In co-operation with F. Walden, the orchardist of Zillah, I am conducting some interesting experiments with various leguminous plants as cover crops. I have been convinced that the clean culture of orchards, excepting where it is necessary to conserve moisture, is a mistake. Careful experiments in the East, where moisture is abundant, have clearly shown that orchards, allowed to grow weeds, or better, planted with some leguminous crop, thrive better than those which are clean cultivated."

While Yakima soils are wonderfully fertile they are deficient in humus and the need of nitrogen will be quickly felt. In this valley there are a number of legumes that can be raised and which will improve the soil and be sold as seed. Among the available plants that have been tried are alfalfa, sweet, red, and crimson clover, yellow trefoil and hairy vetch. The plant selected should not be of such a character as to choke the irrigation channels and it should perpetuate itself so that re-seeding is necessary only at long intervals. From my present knowledge I am inclined to think that red clover, mixed with yellow trefoil, will prove most satisfactory. If desired, these crops may be pastured, using the proper precautions to protect the trees. While the growing of legumes in orchards may result in the increase of the amount of water required, I am convinced that the practice will be found to be so beneficial as to be generally adopted.

"I am greatly interested in the proposition to increase the crop of American alfalfa seed. At the present time immense quantities are imported each year from Europe and the importations keep increasing. All the conditions are most favorable in this country for the raising of alfalfa seed and I believe the yield would be large and of prime quality. I see no reason why this seed should not be raised in large quantities in the Yakima Valley and at a handsome profit to the grower."

WHEAT YIELD IS EXCELLENT Farmers of Umatilla Hold Crop for Better Prices.

PENDLETON, Or., Aug. 11.—(Special.)—What is perhaps the largest yield of wheat ever harvested in this or any other county is reported by T. J. Kirk, of Athena, one of the prominent men of the county, who was in Pendleton today. He says that one of his large fields made an average of more than 67 bushels to the acre. There have been a number of yields reported that made an average of 55 bushels, and at least one of these was on a half-section field. That the average for the entire section of country of which Athena, Helix, Adams, Myrick and the reservation are the centers, will equal 49 bushels, there is no doubt.

Not only is the yield throughout the county probably the heaviest ever harvested, but the quality is exceptionally fine. The standard test for the first grade is 58 and the poorest sample shown in Pendleton this season tested 55 1/2, while the average has been above 60 and some have gone as high as 63.

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MUSTARD IS GREAT PEST

"JIM HILL" VARIETY WORRIES PALOUSE FARMERS.

Wheat Fields Are Invaded by Weed Brought From the Dakotas In Seed.

FARMINGTON, Wash., Aug. 11.—(Special.)—There is great excitement in the Palouse country, and the farmers are exercised over the advent of the weed. There has never been any of this mustard seen here until this year, but in Adams and Lincoln Counties and in Douglas County it has been established for several years and is now spreading to the Palouse country. There is a state law in effect imposing a severe penalty on those who fail to destroy the weed.

The farmers are of the opinion that the country or wheat fields, sowing the seeds in its path. The course of a plant driven across the wheat field by the wind may be traced the next season by a row of young plants. The blossoms are a yellowish color and the seeds are usually ripe when the wheat is ready to cut.

Many of the farmers here in the Palouse country are now busy with the harvest, but they are allowing them to go to seed. But to get this pest exterminated the farmers have a fight on their hands.

For many years "Jim Hill mustard" has flourished in the Eastern states, and especially in the Dakotas, where thousands of acres of wheat is ruined by the pest annually. It was not known in the West until the Great Northern road was built, and is supposed to have come here mixed with seed-wheat. It derives its name from the president of the Great Northern, as it made its first appearance in this state in the wheat counties traversed by the Hill road.

Ready to Harvest Prune Crop.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Aug. 11.—(Special.)—The prune growers of Clarke County are busy repairing their dryers and getting everything in readiness for the care of the crop. The mustard which they will have if everything proves as expected. Pickers are being sought for the handling of the crop, and every one who wants work of this kind can be assured that they will have all the work they desire. Many farmers are contracting for their help now as it is feared there will be a scarcity after the harvest is started and that perhaps they will not be able to secure help enough to properly take care of the crop. Prune growers generally express themselves as being enthusiastic over the prospects this season as prices promise to be good.

"Always tired" describes a dangerous condition Hood's Sarsaparilla will give you strength.

CHANGE FOR FRUIT

Clatsop County Should Plant More Orchards.

CONDITIONS ARE SUITABLE

W. K. Newell Tells Dwellers by the Sea That Their Soil and Climate Will Grow Splendid Apples.

ASTORIA, Or., Aug. 11.—(Special.)—There is no reason why Clatsop County should not be among the leading fruit-raising counties of the state. That is the statement of W. K. Newell, of Gaston, Oregon, president of the State Board of Horticulture, who recently made a visit to inspect the orchards in this vicinity and to advise the farmers relative to the best methods of raising the trees of fruit pests. Mr. Newell was especially well pleased with the condition of the orchards in this district, considering that practically no attention has been paid to them, and says the people do not realize the opportunity there is here for engaging in fruit-raising.

Mr. Newell says: "That statement may sound strange to people who apparently think dairying is the only branch of farming that can be successfully followed here, but it is a fact. Just the same, and one which you Astorians should not fail to impress upon the minds of home-seekers, who are coming from the Eastern and Middle Western States to make their homes on this Coast."

"I do not mean to say that peaches or classes of fruit like that can be grown here to advantage, but there is no place on the Pacific Coast better adapted for the growing of apples, especially Gravensteins and Baldwins, pears and all varieties of small fruits than on the uplands in Clatsop County. In the first place, you have the most equable climate of any section of the state, without the extremes of heat and cold, and for that reason you are cured of the fever fruit pests that are we who reside in the warmer sections."

Fungi Only Foes of Fruit. I found upon investigation that the only pests with which orchardists must contend in Clatsop County are fungus diseases and there is practically no trouble with insects. These farmers relative to the growing of apples, especially Gravensteins and Baldwins, pears and all varieties of small fruits than on the uplands in Clatsop County. In the first place, you have the most equable climate of any section of the state, without the extremes of heat and cold, and for that reason you are cured of the fever fruit pests that are we who reside in the warmer sections."

Pleased With Orchards. "This is the first time I ever visited the farming districts of this county and I am truly surprised at the amount of orchards. I saw trees containing fully 25 boxes each of Gravensteins apples that would have been worth not less than a dollar a box because of the size and quality of the fruit is affected with scab. Had those trees been sprayed at a cost of not to exceed two bits each, the crop would have been worth \$1.50 a crate. From every tree that would have brought \$25 in the markets. The apples grow as well here as they do in what are known as the fruit districts of the state, but they are about one week later in picking."

"I picked, in the Lewis and Clark section, some of the finest raspberries that I ever saw in my life, and one advantage which this district has over other parts of the state in this regard is that your raspberries are now just in their prime. The raspberries in the districts further east is at an end. The Portland market is bare of this fruit and it would find a ready sale at from \$1.25 to \$1.50 a crate. From every tree that would have brought \$25 in the markets. The apples grow as well here as they do in what are known as the fruit districts of the state, but they are about one week later in picking."

Threshing Begins at Gresham. GRESHAM, Or., Aug. 11.—(Special.)—Threshing began yesterday, the first run being on the Stanley Brothers' farms. From now on, for the next two months, there will be four or five threshing operations throughout the eastern sections of Multnomah and Clackamas Counties. Those in charge of the threshers say the grain yield is not quite so heavy this year as it was last year, but the crop is lighter, but that their two months' work will be equally as profitable because of the shorter season. Last year the grain-growers very much needed the much more labor than it will this year in handling it. The grain is old this year for Multnomah County is estimated at 200,000 bushels, mostly oats of a superior quality.

Haying was finished a week ago, the yield being about 20 per cent less than last year. Much of it has already been sold, especially the surplus, which is being baled from stacks in the fields. Last year the surplus was about 20,000 tons. This year it will be about 10,000 tons, but the higher prices will offset the shortage.